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<u>EVENING PAPERS</u>	..	<u>FRIDAY, 24th JANUARY, 1941</u>
<u>MORNING PAPERS</u>	..	<u>SATURDAY, 25th JANUARY, 1941</u>

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - DECEMBER QUARTER, 1940.

The latest available statistics, from various sources, indicating the movement of Employment and Unemployment throughout Australia have been issued by the Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

EMPLOYMENT.

Employment in Factories: The number of persons employed in Australian factories in November, 1940 was 37.3% greater than in the pre-depression year 1928-29, and 9% greater than in the pre-war year 1938-39.

A comparison of factory employment in November, 1940 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States) with November, 1939, shows the following estimated percentage changes for each State:- New South Wales, +6.9; Victoria, +5.3; Queensland, +2.4; South Australia, +17.1; Western Australia, -0.9; Tasmania, +4.3.

Employment in Retail Stores: The index number for Australia for the year 1939-40 indicates a 30.9% increase in employment since July, 1933 (the first date for which figures are available), and an 0.7% increase since 1938-39. When the growth of employee population is taken into account an increase is shown of 22.0% since July, 1933 and a decrease of 0.4% since 1938-39.

A comparison of employment in retail stores in November, 1940 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States) with November, 1939, shows the following estimated percentage changes:- New South Wales, +0.8; Victoria, +0.7; Queensland, nil; South Australia, +5.4; Western Australia, nil; Tasmania, nil; Australia, +1.1.

Total Employment: Between November, 1939 and November, 1940 total employment in Australia is estimated to have increased by approximately 2.5 per cent. exclusive of persons engaged in Army, Navy and Air Forces.

Detailed tables of various phases of employment as available for individual States and the Commonwealth are appended.

/MONTHLY

MONTHLY INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT EXCLUDING WORKING PROPRIETORS (a).

(Base: Average for year 1928-29 = 100).

Period	New South Wales			Victoria			Queensland			South Australia			Western Australia			Tasmania			Australia					
																			Unadjusted Index			Index divided by Index of Employee Population		
Number of Employees, 1928-29	M.129,539	F. 44,581	T.174,120	M. 98,068	F. 51,198	T.149,266	M.35,581	F. 7,855	T.43,436	M.29,014	F. 6,362	T.35,376	M.16,039	F. 3,760	T.19,799	M.7,703	F.2,281	T.9,984	M.315,944	F.116,037	T.431,981	..		
Index for -	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1926-27	100	98	99	102	99	101	101	89	99	113	109	112	95	91	94	105	88	101	101.5	97.8	100.5	105.9	102.0	104.9
1927-28	99	97	98	100	98	100	101	92	99	106	106	106	98	97	98	107	104	106	100.4	97.8	99.7	102.5	99.8	101.7
1928-29	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1929-30	90	91	90	96	98	97	95	94	94	87	89	87	94	98	94	105	99	104	92.4	94.6	93.0	91.0	92.9	91.5
1930-31	68	75	70	78	83	80	83	85	84	63	71	64	68	76	69	85	83	84	72.9	79.1	74.6	71.0	76.4	72.4
1931-32	66	79	69	77	90	81	78	84	79	61	76	64	61	75	63	84	87	85	70.4	84.1	74.1	67.7	80.0	71.0
1932-33	73	86	76	87	101	92	80	92	82	68	84	71	68	81	70	86	90	87	77.6	93.1	81.8	73.7	87.3	77.4
1933-34	82	94	85	96	107	100	86	99	88	77	89	80	75	85	77	93	89	92	86.1	99.4	89.7	80.8	92.0	84.0
1934-35	93	107	97	106	113	108	92	105	94	89	97	91	83	92	85	101	97	100	96.3	108.4	99.6	89.4	98.9	92.2
1935-36	104	116	107	117	119	117	97	110	99	104	110	105	99	106	100	112	103	110	107.0	116.2	109.4	98.4	105.0	100.2
1936-37	112	125	115	123	121	123	103	116	106	110	113	111	107	113	108	122	103	118	114.4	121.2	116.3	104.1	108.3	105.3
1937-38	121	134	124	131	126	130	112	123	114	120	121	121	110	116	111	130	108	125	122.9	128.0	124.3	110.7	113.0	111.3
1938-39	124	137	127	132	127	130	117	127	119	118	124	119	110	119	112	137	115	132	124.4	130.0	125.9	110.9	113.4	111.6
1939-40	n.a.	n.a.	129	130	136	132	119	131	121	118	136	121	105	123	108	143	121	138	123.9	138.5	127.9	109.5	119.5	112.1
1938 -																								
November	124	140	128	133	129	132	120	131	122	117	124	118	111	120	113	136	106	129	125.5	132.1	127.3	112.1	115.5	113.0
December	123	139	127	133	126	131	118	129	120	118	123	119	112	121	114	139	108	132	125.1	130.6	126.6	111.6	114.0	112.2
1939 -																								
January	122	129	123	130	118	126	107	121	110	120	123	120	109	118	111	143	121	138	122.3	122.5	122.4	109.0	106.9	108.4
February	123	136	126	132	129	131	112	129	115	123	126	123	110	120	112	146	126	141	124.4	131.2	126.2	110.8	114.3	111.7
March	125	139	128	133	132	133	113	133	117	123	130	125	110	119	112	145	124	140	125.6	134.0	127.9	111.8	116.7	113.1

n.a. not available.

/MONTHLY

MONTHLY INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT EXCLUDING WORKING PROPRIETORS (a).

(Continued).

Period	New South Wales			Victoria			Queensland			South Australia			Western Australia			Tasmania			Australia					
																			Unadjusted Index			Index divided by Index of Employee Population		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1939 -																								
April	124	138	127	132	130	131	111	125	113	120	127	121	110	118	111	141	125	137	124.3	132.0	126.4	110.5	114.8	111.7
May	124	137	127	133	127	131	117	128	119	117	126	118	110	121	112	139	117	134	125.0	130.3	126.5	111.1	113.2	111.7
June	124	136	127	131	125	129	118	126	120	113	123	115	108	120	110	135	120	132	124.2	128.5	125.3	110.3	111.6	110.5
July (a)	Not Avail- able		124	123	121	122	121	123	121	113	130	116	104	119	107	124	104	120	119.8	126.8	121.6	106.2	110.0	107.1
August			124	123	122	123	121	127	122	117	124	119	105	120	107	124	103	119	120.4	127.3	122.3	106.7	110.3	107.7
September			126	124	125	125	123	129	124	112	126	115	101	122	105	132	103	125	120.6	130.6	123.3	106.8	113.1	108.5
October			129	130	130	130	127	129	127	114	129	117	104	126	108	139	109	133	124.4	134.5	127.1	110.1	116.3	111.7
November			131	131	136	133	125	136	127	113	133	117	107	126	110	145	117	139	125.1	140.1	129.2	110.6	121.1	113.4
December			133	131	133	132	118	134	121	119	132	122	107	127	111	149	118	142	125.9	139.6	129.6	111.3	120.5	113.7
1940 -																								
January	Not Avail- able		131	131	145	136	108	122	111	119	135	122	107	123	110	146	111	138	123.0	144.3	128.8	108.6	124.5	112.9
February			131	134	142	137	112	132	116	119	143	123	107	120	109	153	120	145	125.6	143.2	130.4	110.8	123.4	114.2
March			133	135	143	138	115	148	121	122	144	126	105	121	108	155	135	151	127.2	146.4	132.3	112.1	126.0	115.7
April			130	135	146	139	115	131	118	123	149	127	105	122	108	152	134	148	125.8	146.0	131.2	110.8	125.6	114.7
May			125	133	141	136	122	133	124	123	142	126	104	126	108	152	145	151	124.0	140.7	128.6	109.2	120.9	112.3
June			130	132	141	135	125	129	125	121	140	125	102	122	106	148	157	150	125.6	142.6	130.2	110.6	122.4	113.6
July			133	131	140	135	129	128	129	120	140	123	101	124	106	143	154	146	126.6	143.9	131.3	-	-	-
August			135	131	140	134	132	133	132	122	142	126	101	123	105	143	154	146	128.1	145.0	132.5	-	-	-
September			136	134	140	136	133	133	133	127	149	131	103	127	107	143	154	146	130.3	145.5	134.4	-	-	-
October			138	137	144	139	129	137	130	129	153	133	102	128	107	141	156	145	131.1	150.0	136.1	-	-	-
November			140	139	141	140	128	139	130	133	156	137	104	132	109	141	158	145	133.2	148.8	137.3	-	-	-
Number of Factories in Sample	1901			100			150			147			92			49			2439					
Percentage of employees in sample in 1938-39	86			21			45			60			32			55			54					

(a) After June, 1939, indexes are based on sample returns, and male and female indexes for Australia are calculated on the assumption that the change in masculinity in the six States is equal to the change in the five States other than New South Wales, for which State sample masculinity figures are not available.

MONTHLY INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN RETAIL STORES.

(Base: July, 1933 = 100)

Month	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Australia	
							Unadjusted Index	Index divided by Index of Employee Population
Index for -								
1935-36	118	130	109	114	110	112	119.4	116.2
1936-37	124	137	111	115	115	119	124.7	120.1
1937-38	130	141	112	115	116	118	128.3	122.2
1938-39	132	142	114	114	116	133	130.0	122.5
1939-40	132	144	117	112	115	139	130.9	122.0
1938 -								
November	132	146	115	116	116	130	131.3	123.9
December	148	165	127	124	131	146	146.9	138.5
1939 -								
January	129	142	113	111	120	137	128.8	121.3
February	134	141	113	112	113	131	129.8	122.2
March	129	139	113	111	113	132	127.2	119.6
April	129	139	112	111	113	133	127.4	119.7
May	131	141	114	111	113	134	128.7	120.8
June	130	142	118	113	113	138	129.5	121.4
July	133	138	116	110	119	138	129.4	121.2
August	129	137	114	109	114	134	126.8	118.7
September	129	137	114	112	111	133	126.6	118.4
October	130	141	114	109	111	135	128.1	119.7
November	133	147	117	111	113	139	131.6	122.9
December	148	165	131	127	125	154	147.8	137.9
1940 -								
January	132	144	117	111	118	144	130.9	122.0
February	135	139	114	110	115	138	130.0	121.0
March	131	140	114	110	116	137	128.6	119.6
April	129	144	116	111	115	137	129.5	120.4
May	130	145	116	111	114	139	130.4	121.1
June	130	149	116	111	114	138	131.1	121.6
July	131	142	116	110	116	138	129.6	-
August	130	140	114	111	112	137	128.3	-
September	129	142	113	111	113	137	128.4	-
October	130	143	113	111	110	138	128.9	-
November	134	148	117	117	113	139	133.0	-
Number of Establishments now furnishing returns	599	102	120	35	69	14	939	939

EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Working from the basis of the results of the Census of 30th June, 1933, and from compilations made from returns of employers in remitting wages tax and returns collected from Government Departments, the Government Statistician of New South Wales has prepared the following table which shows the approximate number of persons employed in New South Wales in the middle week of the months specified.

/NEW

NEW SOUTH WALES - EMPLOYMENT.

The numbers shown below exclude rationed relief workers and men in the Army, Navy and Air Forces.

Month	Total in Employment	Total in Private Employment	Total Employed in Factories (b)	Number Employed by Employers with ten or more Employees in -			
				Mines	Retail Trade	Wholesale Trade	Offices & Commerce
1933 - June ..	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1934 " ..	639,646	518,645	162,700	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1935 " ..	694,815	567,110	182,200	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1936 " ..	741,934	613,631	199,200	18,995	47,653	22,792	25,543
1937 " ..	800,405	652,947	216,900	18,555	49,877	24,808	24,857
1938 " ..	839,511	688,881	229,000	20,980	51,921	25,212	26,297
1939 " ..	831,555	678,577	229,000	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
1939 - November	856,861	706,469	236,700	21,034	52,658	26,200	29,088
1940 - January ..	851,355	699,981	235,900	20,783	52,372	25,614	29,158
February	859,409	706,638	237,300	21,041	53,602	25,674	29,553
March (c) ..	865,691	712,285	241,300	21,037	52,062	25,963	29,276
April (c) ..	852,131	698,374	235,300	20,703	51,406	25,927	29,030
May (c) ..	837,120	682,538	225,700	20,559	51,799	25,732	28,028
June ..	856,446	700,155	234,500	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,714
July ..	865,112	708,294	239,900	21,110	52,112	25,891	28,100
August ..	872,026	714,688	243,900	21,017	51,728	25,924	29,100
September	875,726	719,777	246,200	21,135	51,382	25,873	29,246
October ..	882,161	724,971	249,600	21,275	51,600	25,830	30,051
November	885,808	728,178	252,500	21,210	53,199	26,028	30,452

(a) Comparable figures not available. (b) Factory employment estimated since July, 1939 subject to revision. (c) Includes mine employees idle owing to an industrial dispute.

EMPLOYMENT IN QUEENSLAND.

The figures in the following table have been compiled by the Director of the Bureau of Industry of Queensland from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns. The table gives a comprehensive statement of all persons in work (other than relief work) in Queensland, whether as employees, Employers, or independent workers.

QUEENSLAND - EMPLOYMENT.

Period	Numbers in Work			
	Employers and Workers on own account	Employees	Working for No Wages	Total
Average - 1928-29	86,300	204,400	9,100	299,800
1933-34	94,700	194,700	9,600	299,000
1934-35	96,800	214,500	9,700	321,000
1935-36	98,900	223,500	9,900	332,300
1936-37	100,900	234,500	10,100	345,500
1937-38	103,000	245,800	10,300	359,100
1938-39	105,100	257,700	10,500	373,300
1939-40	106,800	264,500	10,600	381,900
Three months ended -				
January - 1940	106,700	264,200	10,600	381,500
February "	106,900	267,500	10,600	385,000
March "	107,000	268,300	10,600	385,900
April "	107,100	267,800	10,600	385,500
May "	107,100	265,800	10,600	383,500
June "	107,000	267,500	10,700	385,200
July "	106,800	265,100	10,700	382,600
August "	106,700	262,800	10,700	380,200
September "	106,700	262,200	10,700	379,600
October "	106,800	263,000	10,700	380,500
November "	106,900	263,700	10,800	381,400

1. The table covers the whole of the working population. 2. The figures for three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation. 3. The figures have been revised for the period since September, 1939 to take account of enlistments. Enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment, and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training.

TASMANIA - EMPLOYMENT.

The following table compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment, gives the best measure available of the course of total employment in Tasmania. From July, 1940, total employment in private industry is estimated from monthly figures collected by the Deputy Statistician and not from wages tax returns.

Period	Private Industry			Public Authorities			Total Employment Public and Private		
	Males	Fe- males	Total	Males	Fe- males	Total	Males	Fe- males	Total
1937-38	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938-39	37,933	12,184	50,117	10,488	1,879	12,367	48,421	14,063	62,484
1939-40	39,659	13,151	52,810	10,725	1,972	12,697	50,384	15,123	65,507
1939-40 -									
July ..	37,236	11,626	48,862	10,100	1,948	12,048	47,336	13,574	60,910
August ..	37,442	11,823	49,265	10,317	1,958	12,275	47,759	13,781	61,540
September ..	37,412	11,982	49,394	10,384	1,950	12,334	47,796	13,932	61,728
October ..	38,210	11,872	50,082	10,665	1,948	12,613	48,875	13,820	62,695
November ..	38,966	12,334	51,300	10,672	1,963	12,635	49,638	14,297	63,935
December ..	40,082	13,341	53,423	10,960	1,955	12,915	51,042	15,296	66,338
January ..	41,951	13,904	55,855	10,828	1,865	12,693	52,779	15,769	68,548
February ..	41,676	13,230	54,906	11,051	1,993	13,044	52,727	15,223	67,950
March ..	42,088	14,918	57,006	11,097	1,999	13,096	53,185	16,917	70,102
April ..	40,792	14,541	55,333	11,060	2,039	13,099	51,852	16,580	68,432
May ..	41,048	14,359	55,407	11,035	2,019	13,054	52,083	16,378	68,461
June ..	39,012	13,883	52,895	10,531	2,024	12,555	49,543	15,907	65,450
1940-41 -									
July ..	37,987	13,956	51,943	10,187	2,069	12,256	48,174	16,025	64,199
August ..	38,402	13,898	52,300	9,881	2,078	11,959	48,283	15,976	64,259
September ..	39,204	14,624	53,828	9,878	2,116	11,994	49,082	16,740	65,822
October ..	39,807	13,996	53,803	9,977	2,099	12,076	49,784	16,095	65,879
November ..	40,064	13,975	54,039	9,678	2,100	11,778	49,742	16,075	65,817

Notes.

1. For periods up to June, 1939, the figures in the table are a **virtually complete** record of total employment. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment. They are deficient only to the inappreciable extent that some relief and other intermittent workers and domestic workers in private homes are not covered by the monthly returns. On the other hand, to the extent that they embrace the majority of workers subject to intermittent employment over the whole year, they reflect fully the seasonal and all other influences upon employment in Tasmania.
2. From July, 1939 the figures are estimates based upon the current monthly movements of all public authority employment and of about 44 per cent. of total private employment. For a given month the figure of total private employment of the corresponding month of the previous year is changed in the ratio of the change of the current figure of private employment. The indication of the position for all employment in Tasmania given by this technical procedure must be read in the light of other indications of current change.

/UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The percentages of recorded unemployment among members of reporting Trade Unions for Australia as a whole are given below for the June quarter of 1932, when unemployment was at its maximum and for each quarter from December, 1935 onwards.

AUSTRALIA.

1932 - June	quarter	..	30.0 per cent.
1935 - December	quarter	..	13.7 per cent.
1936 - March	quarter	..	13.4 per cent.
June	"	..	12.8 " "
September	"	..	12.0 " "
December	"	..	10.7 " "
1937 - March	quarter	..	9.9 per cent.
June	"	..	9.7 " "
September	"	..	9.3 " "
December	"	..	8.2 " "
1938 - March	quarter	..	8.0 per cent.
June	"	..	8.6 " "
September	"	..	9.2 " "
December	"	..	8.9 " "
1939 - March	quarter	..	9.6 per cent.
June	"	..	9.5 " "
September	"	..	10.2 " "
December	"	..	9.3 " "
1940 - March	quarter	..	7.9 per cent.
June	"	..	(a)10.5 " "
September	"	..	7.4 " "
December	"	..	6.2 " "

The figures refer to the mid-month of each quarter, and the conditions at the middle of that month. Consequently, the latest quarterly figures referred to herein relate to the middle of November, 1940.

The usual tables for Trade Union Unemployment are appended.

AUSTRALIA.

Number and Membership of Trade Unions Reporting and Number and Percentage of Unemployed - March quarter, 1929 to December quarter, 1940.

Australia	March Quarter 1929	June Quarter 1932	June Quarter 1933	De-cember Quarter 1939	March Quarter 1940	June Quarter 1940 (a)	Sep-tember Quarter 1940	De-cember Quarter 1940
Number of Unions ..	375	396	394	392	394	388	397	396
Membership ..	420,304	413,272	415,059	478,245	483,806	475,815	496,872	508,914
Unemployed - Number ..	39,159	123,948	106,502	44,253	38,307	49,775	36,892	31,491
Percentage ..	9.3	30.0	25.7	9.3	7.9	10.5	7.4	6.2

Although the unions reporting are not identical in successive quarters and the numbers vary slightly, it is evident that there has been a substantial increase in membership concurrently with the decrease in numbers reported as unemployed. The returns relate to unions which embrace between 20 per cent. and 25 per cent. of wage earners and for some States these constitute a more representative sample than for others. The table which follows, therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment among unionists in the individual States but as an indication of trend of unemployment among such unionists from quarter to quarter as reported by Secretaries of Trade Unions.

/STATES.

STATES.

Percentage of Members of Trade Unions Reported as Unemployed in each
State : March quarter, 1929 to December quarter, 1940.

State	March Quarter 1929	June Quarter 1932	June Quarter 1933	December Quarter 1939	March Quarter 1940	June Quarter 1940	September Quarter 1940	December Quarter 1940
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales ..	9.7	33.2	29.6	11.1	9.7	(a)15.9	9.8	8.5
Victoria ..	8.6	27.7	23.0	9.0	6.5	6.6	5.9	4.3
Queensland ..	7.1	19.9	15.6	5.8	5.8	6.8	4.9	4.5
South Australia ..	13.2	35.2	30.0	9.1	8.5	8.3	6.6	4.7
Western Australia	8.5	30.3	26.0	6.6	6.9	5.6	6.0	4.0
Tasmania ..	10.9	27.5	18.4	7.1	4.8	5.0	4.6	6.5
<u>AUSTRALIA:</u>	9.3	30.0	25.7	9.3	7.9	(a)10.5	7.4	6.2

(a) In June quarter, 1940, coalmining employees out of work owing to the industrial dispute were excluded from the tabulation, but persons in other industries indirectly unemployed owing to the dispute were included.

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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

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